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**MAIL STOP PCT**

Docket No. 283236US2X PCT  
IN RE APPLICATION OF: Hiroyuki OCHIAI, et al.  
SERIAL NO: 10/560,070  
FILED: December 9, 2005  
FOR: METAL PRODUCT PRODUCING METHOD, METAL PRODUCT, METAL COMPONENT CONNECTING METHOD, AND CONNECTION STRUCTURE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:  
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required  
☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. §1.9 and §1.27 is claimed.  
☒ Additional documents filed herewith: Preliminary Amendment

The Fee has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS	CLAIMS REMAINING		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID	NO. EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	CALCULATIONS
TOTAL	20	MINUS	28	0	x \$50 =	\$0.00
INDEPENDENT	3	MINUS	5	0	x \$200 =	\$0.00
APPLICATION SIZE		MINUS	100	0 (each addtl. 50 sheets)	x \$250 =	\$0.00
		<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS			+ \$360 =	\$0.00
		TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS				\$0.00
		<input type="checkbox"/> Reduction by 50% for filing by Small Entity				\$0.00
		TOTAL				\$0.00

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached.  
☐ Credit card payment form is attached to cover the fees in the amount of \$0.00  
☒ Please charge any additional Fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.  
☒ If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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DOCKET NO. 283236US2X PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
HIROYUKI OCHIAI, ET AL. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION  
SERIAL NO: 10/560,070 :  
FILED: DECEMBER 9, 2005 :  
FOR: METAL PRODUCT PRODUCING :  
METHOD, METAL PRODUCT,  
METAL COMPONENT  
CONNECTING METHOD, AND  
CONNECTION STRUCTURE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 6 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper.